

A NEW MAGNOLIA FROM WEST FLORIDA.

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Magnolia Ashei, n. sp., *M. macrophyllae* valde affinis, differt tamen costis subtus plerumque subappresse pubescentibus, floribus minoribus, viventibus diametro 20–31 cm. (fide Ashe), petalis plerumque acutis vel acutiusculis, exterioribus 12–14.5 cm. longis 5–6.6 cm. latis, interioribus 10.5–13 cm. longis 3–5.5 cm. latis, carpellorum capitulis ad anthesin plerumque anguste ovoideis 2.4–2.7 cm. longis, stylis plerumque rectis, fructibus ovoideo-cylindraceutis, 5–11 cm. longis diametro 3.5–5 cm., folliculorum valvarum appendicibus siccatis 1–2 mm. latis vel, ut videtur, paene obsoletis, intus sparse pubescentibus, seminibus 9–10 mm. longis.

Closely related to *M. macrophylla*, from which it differs in the usually subappressed pubescence of the midribs of the leaves beneath; the smaller flowers, according to Ashe 20–31 cm. in diameter when fresh; the usually acute or acutish petals, the outer 12–14.5 cm. long, 5–6.6 cm. wide, the inner 10.5–13 cm. long, 3–5.6 cm. wide; the head of carpels, usually narrowly ovoid and 2.4–2.7 cm. long at flowering time; the usually straight styles; the ovoid-cylindric fruit, 5–11 cm. long, 3.5–5 cm. in diameter; the narrow appendages of the follicle-valves, in dried material 1–2 mm. wide or apparently almost obsolete, sparsely pubescent within; and the smaller seeds, 9–10 mm. long.—In deep sandy soil near streams, associated with laurel oak, *Ilex opaca*, *Liquidambar*, *Cercis* and *Illicium*. FLORIDA, Okaloosa County: tree 25 ft. high, or shrubby, Rogue Creek, April 26 and June 6, 1925, Ashe, (TYPE in herb. Ashe), two sheets, same locality and dates in Herb. Gray, and others from same locality (coll. *E. R. McKee* and Ashe) in herb. Ashe; head of Rocky Creek, April 26 and Oct. 24, 1923, Ashe, and May 3, 1925, *G. B. Anchora*, all in herb. Ashe.

In *M. macrophylla* the pubescence of the under surface of the leaves, though variable, tends to be denser than in *M. Ashei*. That of the mid-rib beneath, also variable as to the length of the hairs, is spreading, and when the hairs are long often matted and lanate. The flowers average distinctly larger, according to Ashe's measurements of fresh material 33–43.5 cm. in diameter when fully expanded. The outer petals are, according to Ashe, 20–23 cm. when fresh, in the Gray Herbarium specimens 14–18 cm. long, 6.5–13 cm. wide, and with a broadly obtuse apex. The head of carpels at anthesis is broadly ovoid. The styles are commonly spreading or recurved near the apex. The head of fruit is broadly ovoid to subglobose, 6–11 cm. long, 4.5–9 cm. in diameter. The seeds are rarely as little as 10, usually 11–14 mm. long.

The follicles of the two species show, so far as can be made out from dried material, a structure not fully accounted for in current descriptions. The valves appear to be produced, for their whole length, into a pubescent appendage which extends out beyond the suture along which dehiscence takes place. In the fully mature and open follicle, these appendages appear as pubescent margins along the outer edges of the gaping valves, the cavity containing the seeds being quite glabrous within.

In *M. macrophylla* the appendages are thick and fleshy, and the apparent margin formed by them is 4-5 mm. wide: in *M. Ashei* they are much thinner and less developed, and the margin is 1-2 mm. wide, or, in the dried fruit, almost shrunken away.

According to Ashe's notes, *M. macrophylla* grows in drier situations, often in open woods well away from streams, with red oak and white hickory.

It will be noted that the differential characters of *M. Ashei* are for the most part of a rather comparative nature and, with the exception of the shape of the fruit and the structure of the follicle, not wholly constant in Mr. Ashe's fine series of specimens. Taken together, however, they constitute a fairly impressive body of evidence, which seems to justify the addition of *M. Ashei* to the list of local species of *Magnolia*, such as *M. pyromidata* and *M. cordata*.

GRAY HERBARIUM.

KATE FURBISH, BOTANIST.—An appreciative sketch of Kate Furbish, who is now in her ninety-second year, has been written by Louise H. Coburn¹ and will be wanted by all who know Miss Furbish or who have known of her tenacity to a life-long purpose. The appreciation is gracefully conferred and the pamphlet is notable as containing three features which in her earlier days Miss Furbish was very loth to make accessible, a statement of her age, an excellent photograph and several very successful photographic reproductions of her paintings of Maine plants. The author is Miss Louise H. Coburn, Skowhegan, Maine.—M. L. F.

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¹ Kate Furbish, Botanist.—An Appreciation by Louise H. Coburn. 1925.